

Reasons for Allowance

The following is a **SUPPLEMENTAL** examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The independent claims recite an email program in which the email program contains delete buttons, each having distinct functionalities, in which upon the actual triggering of deleting the message, these distinct functionalities also occur. The functionalities include (1) an email delete button that indicates that the chosen email message to delete is spam and such information is reported to a spam determining database to update information used to determine whether email is spam or not, and (2) an email delete button that indicates that the chosen email message to delete is not spam and such information is reported to a spam determining database to update information used to determine whether email is spam or not.

The prior art disclosed teachings of being able to delete email while such email is being indicated if it is spam, Not spam, or neither through the use of folders (see Horvitz, US 6161130), but at the time of deletion, the spam determining database is not updated. The email has already been categorized at the time of moving the email messages to the folder. The prior art did not explicitly disclose that the triggering of the delete buttons causes the updates to the spam determining database.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J Bret Dennison whose telephone number is (571)272-3910. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia Dollinger can be reached on (571) 272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J Bret Dennison/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443